

Message Text

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LIMDIS-DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. REASONS BEHIND MIYAZAWA STATEMENTS ON CHINA POLICY

EMBASSY TOKYO REPORTS THAT SPECULATION IS RIFE ABOUT THE REASONS FOR FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA'S COMMENTS TO SENATOR MANSFIELD AND THE DIET. IN THE EMBASSY'S VIEW:

--MIYAZAWA IS NOT OPPOSED TO US-PRC NORMALIZATION, BUT IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE TIMING AND TERMS.

--MIYAZAWA'S DIET STATEMENT CRITICIZING CHINESE SUPPORT FOR THE JAPANESE POSITION ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES SUGGESTS THAT HE SEES LITTLE HOPE FOR MOVEMENT ON THE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY DURING HIS TENURE.

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--DOMESTICALLY, MIYAZAWA MUST HAVE CALCULATED THAT

BACKING FROM CONSERVATIVE POWER BROKERS WOULD BE MORE
USEFUL IN REALIZING HIS GOALS OF FUTURE CABINET POSTS
THAN HELP FROM LIBERALS LIKE MIKI. (CONFIDENTIAL)
TOKYO 10983, 7/21.)

2. PERU: ARBULU'S STAR RISING

IN EMBASSY LIMA'S VIEW, PRIME MINISTER ARBULU'S STRONG CON-
TROL OVER THE ARMED FORCES SHOULD ENHANCE HIS POLITICAL
POSITION. ACCORDING TO A POLITICAL ADVISER IN THE PRIME
MINISTER'S OFFICE:

--AS THE FIRST PRIME MINISTER TO ENJOY WIDE PERSONAL
SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE TOP ARMY RANKS, ARBULU WILL
EXERCISE SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE OVER PRESIDENT MORALES
BERMUDEZ.

--ARBULU IS MORE CONSERVATIVE AND AMBITIOUS THAN THE
PRESIDENT AND MAY MOVE TO OUST HIM WITHIN A YEAR.

THE EMBASSY ADDS THAT, WHILE THE GOP MAY COOPERATE WITH
APRA IN LIMITED AREAS:

--THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT IS LIKELY TO MAKE EVERY
EFFORT TO RETAIN POWER AT LEAST UNTIL THE ECONOMIC
CRISIS PASSES; AND

--ANTI-APRA SENTIMENT PERSISTS AMONG BOTH SENIOR AND
JUNIOR MILITARY OFFICERS, AND ARBULU HIMSELF IS SAID
TO BE NO FRIEND OF THE PARTY. (CONFIDENTIAL) LIMA
6628, 7/21.)

3. TUNISIA: PLANNING AHEAD FOR LIBYAN MOVES

PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA, IN A DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR
MULCAHY JULY 19, GAVE HIS VIEWS OF TUNISIAN-LIBYAN RELA-
TIONS AND SOUGHT REASSURANCE THAT THE US WOULD NOT ABAN-
DON TUNISIA IN THE FACE OF A LIBYAN THREAT. NOUIRA:

--REVIEWED THE TUNISIAN CASE IN ITS DISPUTE WITH
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LIBYA ON CONTINENTAL SHELF RIGHTS, ADDING THAT, GIVEN
THE FUTILITY OF DEALING WITH LIBYA, HE DOUBTED THE
CASE WOULD BE TAKEN TO THE ICJ;

--SAID THAT PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA'S RECENT INITIATIVE
TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES WITH LIBYA HAD BEEN REBUFFED.

--REPORTED THAT LIBYA CONTINUES ITS TROOP BUILD-UP ON

TUNISIA'S BORDER AND ITS VIOLATIONS OF TUNISIAN AIR SPACE; AND

--PREDICTED THAT QADHAFI'S "NEXT OUTRAGE" WOULD BE LAUNCHED AUGUST 1.

AMBASSADOR MULCAHY, RESPONDING TO NOUIRA'S QUERY WHETHER, IF QADHAFI MOVED AGAINST TUNISIA, THE US WOULD COME TO TUNISIA'S AID, SAID THAT NO FORMAL GUARANTEES COULD BE MADE. HE EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL VIEW, HOWEVER, THAT WE WOULD DO NO LESS FOR TUNISIA THAN HAD BEEN DONE FOR KENYA IN THE FACE OF UGANDAN THREATS. TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR HEDDA ADDED HIS RECOLLECTION OF ASSURANCES WHICH THE SECRETARY RECENTLY GAVE TO BOURGUIBA, JR. THAT THE US WOULD NOT TOLERATE THREATS TO TUNISIA'S SECURITY. (SECRET) TUNIS 5100 (LIMDIS), 7/21.)

4. SCHMIDT SNATCHES A PUBLICITY SETBACK FROM THE JAWS OF TRIUMPH

EMBASSY BONN REPORTS THAT FRG MEDIA PRAISED CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S RECENT US VISIT, COMMENTING THAT:

--THE END OF OFFSET PAYMENTS WAS A PERSONAL TRIUMPH FOR THE CHANCELLOR.

--FRG AGREEMENT TO FUND A LARGE SHARE OF NORTHAG INITIAL STATIONING COSTS REPRESENTED A PROPER GERMAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMON DEFENSE.

THE CHANCELLOR'S CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED PRESS CAMPAIGN WENT AWRY, HOWEVER, WHEN HIS REMARKS ON THE ITALIAN ELECTIONS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT PUSHED
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THE OFFSET/NORTHAG STORY OFF THE FRONT PAGES.

EMBASSY COMMENT: IT MUST HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY GALLING TO SCHMIDT TO HAVE THE ITALIAN STORY REPLACE THE OFFSET/NORTHAG ONE IN THE MEDIA. NO LONGER WAS THE EMPHASIS ON CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT USING AN INTERNATIONAL VISIT SIMULTANEOUSLY TO DEFEND GERMANY'S NATIONAL INTERESTS AND TO IMPROVE NATO DEFENSIVE CAPABILITIES, BUT RATHER ON "SCHMIDT THE LIP," TALKING WHEN HE SHOULD HAVE KEPT SILENT. (CONFIDENTIAL) BONN 12320, 7/21.) ROBINSON

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